

REMARKS

The Official Action of April 21, 2004 has been carefully considered and reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The claims have been amended to remove the bases for the rejections under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, appearing at paragraphs 16-18 of the Official Action. With particular respect to the rejections appearing at paragraph 16 of the Official Action, all of the subject informalities have been corrected by the amendments to the claims, including those courteously suggested by the Examiner, with the following exception. The rejection for alleged lack of antecedent basis for the variable R₂₇ is respectfully traversed insofar as a definition of this variable appears beginning in the first line of the definition of R₅. The variable R₆ does not appear in claim 1 and the definitions have accordingly been deleted. The amendment to correct this "-O-(C₃-C₅ cycloalkyl)" moiety draws support from claim 1 as filed.

With particular respect to the rejection appearing at paragraph 18 of the Official Action, this rejection has been rendered moot by the cancellation of claim 30. All claims as amended are respectfully believed to be sufficiently definite to satisfy the dictates of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

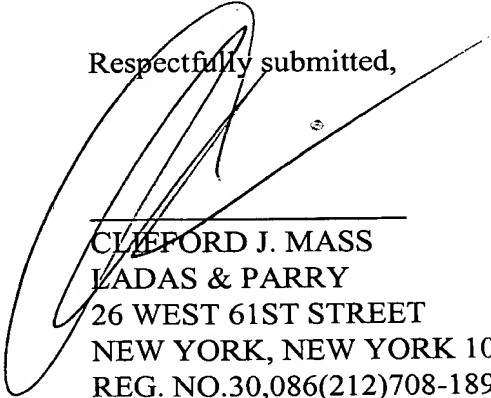
Claims 13, 14 and 30-45 have been canceled without prejudice whereby to render moot the rejection under 35 USC 112, first paragraph, appearing at paragraphs 12-14 of the Official Action. New claims 48-59 have been added more completely to

define the subject matter which Applicant regards as his invention. Claim 48 recites a composition comprising the compound of claim 1 in an amount effective to bind CRF. It is respectfully believed that this claim draws clear support from the specification as filed (see, e.g., specification at page 48, lines 21-25). Indeed, the Examiner has acknowledged this (see paragraph 5 of Official Action: "It is agreed with applicants that there is support for the binding of the instantly claimed antagonists to CRF with the binding affinities to the CRF in both the instant specification as well as the Declaration of December 22, 2003").

Claims 49-59 are directed to a method that has been withdrawn pursuant to restriction requirement. However, in accordance with the Examiner's comments at paragraphs 6-9 of the Official Action, it is respectfully requested that these claims be rejoined in this application upon the allowance of the product claims.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that all rejections and objections of record have been successfully traversed and that the application is now in allowable form. An early notice of allowance is earnestly solicited and is believed to be fully warranted.

Respectfully submitted,



CLIFFORD J. MASS
LADAS & PARRY
26 WEST 61ST STREET
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10023
REG. NO.30,086(212)708-1890